



CERTIFICATION OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

On: March 5, 2001
By: Rex M. Bitner

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Rex M. Bitner et al **Docket No.:** 16026.9264
Serial No.: 09/711,782 **Group Art Unit:** 1744
Filed: November 13, 2000 **Examiner:**
Title: LYSATE CLEARANCE AND NUCLEIC ACID ISOLATION USING
SILANIZED SILICA MATRICES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-cited patent application on its merits, please amend the application as follows:

I. IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 7, line 8, please delete "electrophorisis" and insert -- electrophoresis-- therefor.

On page 7, line 11, please delete "electrophorisis" and insert --electrophoresis-- therefor.

On page 8, line 14, please delete "ferromagnetic" and insert --ferrimagnetic-- therefor.

On page 12, line 11, please delete "form" and insert --from-- therefor.

On page 18, line 13, please delete "aresiliceous" and insert --are siliceous-- therefor.

On page 20, line 7, please insert -- , or a linkage to another silane ligand to generate a higher order polymer-- immediately after the formula "-OCH₂CH₃".

On page 22, line 29, please delete "or".

On page 22, line 29, immediately after "-OCH₂CH₃", please insert --or a linkage to another silane ligand to generate a higher order polymer--.